

16th Comm racks up awards

By Senior Airman Sam Taylor
Public Affairs

The 16th Communications Squadron and its air- men chalked up nine 2002 Air Force level communications awards recently.

While the squadron itself was awarded the Lt. Gen. Harold Grant Award and named as the Outstanding Small Communications Unit, there were seven individual awards presented as well.


“I’m thrilled the Air Force realized what I’ve known the past year — Comm Commandos are the best in the Air Force,” said Lt. Col. Timothy Lynn, 16th CS commander. “We’re the only communications squadron with such a varied fixed-base and deployed mission. Normally a comm squadron either does a fixed-base mission or a deployed mission, but not both.”

The Lt. Gen. Harold Grant Award recognizes communications units with 300 or fewer members, for sustained superior performance and excellence in all facets of communications.

“This award is a culmination of two years of total commitment by every member of the 16th CS to ensure communication is rock solid, whether deployed at a remote location or home at Hurlburt Field,” said Colonel Lynn.

Among the squadron’s accomplishments cited for the award, several were for excellence during support of Operation Enduring

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Courtesy graphic

The artist's rendition shown is what the new combined dining/fitness center should look like when completed in June 2004.

Hurlburt Field continues to grow

By Tech. Sgt. Andre Nicholson
Public Affairs

Since January 2002, more than 60 construction projects around Hurlburt Field have been completed with 30 still in the works and another 23 scheduled to start soon.

The completed projects, which cost nearly \$30 million, were part of the base’s overhaul, which was driven by a long term base comprehensive plan to upgrade existing facilities or build new and improved ones.

“Anywhere you stand on base, you can turn in any direction and see construction being done,” said Col. Raymond Killgore, 16th Special Operations Command vice commander. “And it’s not going away any time soon.”

Hurlburt Field wasn’t originally designed to accommodate the amount of people currently assigned here and

its mission, so many upgrades and additions are necessary, explained Lt. Col. Jeffrey Pitchford, 16th Civil Engineer Squadron commander.

“With what we have now, and if the funding we expect for the remainder of this fiscal year comes through, the base will have nearly \$100 million in construction going on, which is virtually unheard of at a CONUS (Continental United States) base,” Colonel Pitchford said. “So, people can expect to see construction for many years to come.”

A few facilities are in need of upgrades to bring them up to standards. Some are being expanded to accommodate the growing population, and new facilities are being built to support the expanding Air Force Special Operations Command mission.

“If people are wondering why there’s so much being done at one

time, it basically comes down to the type of project,” said 1st Lt. Teresa Lord, 16th CES. “All construction doesn’t fall into the same category, so the funds, approval level and contracts can vary depending on what’s needed.”

Each project has a different avenue for funding that determines what category the project falls under, such as MILCON projects (military construction), O and M projects (operation and maintenance), and SABER projects (simplified acquisition of base engineering requirements), according to Levi Dardar, 16th CES.

Since each project has a different avenue for funding and approval, some projects may be approved sooner than others, although they may have been requested later, sometimes causing projects to start around the same time. Obviously, some projects will

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VIEWPOINTS

Open Line

The Commander's Open Line is your direct line to me for questions or suggestions about subjects of concern to the Hurlburt Field community. I really appreciate your feedback.

To receive a response, leave your name, unit and telephone number. Open lines of general interest will be printed in the **COMMANDO**. I'll answer the others

by letter or phone call. Remember, the quickest and most efficient way to resolve a problem is to talk directly to the agency responsible. This gives them an opportunity to help you, and perhaps improve their process.

However, if you're not satisfied with the answer you receive, feel free to give me a call at 884-OPEN (6736), or e-mail your concerns to commando@hurlburt.af.mil.



Col. Frank Kisner,
16th SOW commander

Wasting water?

Comment: I'm concerned about the abundance of yard watering in base housing. I've noticed numerous people watering outside of their scheduled watering times or watering on their non-watering days. I like a nice looking yard as much as the next person, but watering too much can be just as damaging as not watering enough. I don't think people realize that. There are also other disadvantages, such as increased mosquito population, water depletion and cost. I've found that by utilizing the watering schedule, I can comfortably water and maintain my yard without having to worry about it. I'd like to know if the Security Forces patrolling our neighborhoods can issue warnings/tickets to these offenders, or could housing office inspectors patrol for offenders? I don't see either happening at the present time.

Reply: We're very concerned about the amount of water we use and monitor it through both our Energy Management Steering Group and our Environmental Protection Committee. We've also recently seen a rise in water usage that's attributable to all of the construction we have on base as well as an increased number of housing residents restoring their lawns. We've had a large number of lawns damaged by insect infestation in recent years and many residents are working hard to restore the yards, which not only presents a better base

appearance, but offers many environmental benefits as well. As a result, people will see more watering than normal due to the seeding.

However, we want to remind everyone of the base watering policy. During normal "Stage 1" conditions, we ask that odd numbered buildings water only on odd numbered days, and even numbered buildings water on even numbered days. In other words, each should only be watered every other day. Watering times are from 6 to 10 a.m. and 6 to 10 p.m. daily, but water at one time or the other, not both. People should water for no more than 30 minutes on any one area. Watering each day is permitted for the first 30 days after seeding or sodding to help the new lawn establish itself, but you should immediately revert to normal watering after that time has passed. If a "Stage 2" water warning condition is declared, then every day watering of new seed and sod will revert to the normal every other day watering policy and car washing will be prohibited. If a "Stage 3" water crisis is declared, which is rare, then all use of outdoor watering is prohibited.

Our housing inspectors watch for violations of this policy during their weekly inspections and will continue to work with residents to ensure compliance. Water conservation is vital to the long-term sustainability of Hurlburt Field and the surrounding community and we ask that everyone do their part in this effort.

Are you tired from summer fun?

By Maj. Mike Duffy
16th SOW Safety Office

Summer is often associated with sleepless nights, big parties, long, hot days at the beach, and lots of fun.

Unfortunately, all these summer activities can take a serious toll on our bodies and minds, in the form of chronic fatigue. For aviators flying multi-million dollar aircraft, responsible for the lives of many, fatigue can have devastating effects.

As a society, we're sleep-deprived and the demands of everyday life have reached the point where rest is routinely sacrificed for work, family and recreation. In fact, over 63 million Americans suffer from moderate or severe sleep-

ness. As a result, on-the-job concentration, decision-making, problem solving and performance are adversely affected.

Twenty-four hours of sustained wakefulness equates to a blood alcohol content of .1 percent, the legal intoxication limit in most states. This is bad news for a sleepy flyer.

Many of the more than 50 percent of aviation mishaps chalked up to human errors are directly related to fatigue and sleepiness in the cockpit.

At the turn of the century, before the advent of electric lights, people slept 9 1/2 hours per day. Now, especially during the summer, many of us sleep less than seven hours per day. This sleep deprivation takes a heavy toll on job perform-

ance, productivity, personal safety and well-being.

There are substantial variations in the sleep needs from one person to another, but on average, adults need about eight hours of nightly sleep to be fully alert during the day. There are many ways to combat sleep loss, but the most effective of way is to simply allow enough time for sufficient sleep.

Summer time activities and lack of sleep lead to chronic fatigue. Adequate sleep is a biological need like hunger or thirst, and it's the only cure for fatigue. This summer, be smart – get some sleep!

Source: *Flying Safety Magazine*, Oct 2002, "Fatigue Factors for Aviators," p. 20-25.

Centennial of flight

Did you know...

'Flying Sergeants' helped forge the Air Force legacy.

Beginning in 1912, enlisted pilots played an important role in writing the aviation history being celebrated this year during the Centennial of Flight.

These enlisted pilots were known as "flying sergeants" for the staff

sergeant rank they received upon graduation from flight training irrespective of their previous rank.

Allowing enlisted members to earn their wings as pilots was a temporary response to drastic shortages of qualified pilot candidates during wartime. Two Congressional laws author-

ized the training: Air Corps Act of 1926 and Public Law 99, which went into effect in 1941. Public Law 99 reduced the education requirement, making the average age of the sergeant pilot between 18-22, younger than most pilot training cadets with a college education.

Enlisted pilot training in the late 1920s initially was informal, practical in nature and not a product of the flying schools, which developed in the early 1940s with World War II enlisted pilots.



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News



U.S. Army photo by Corporal Marshall Emerson

Rubber ducky

CENTRAL COMMAND AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY – Following their inflatable boat out the door, Army Special Operations soldiers run off the ramp of an Air Force MH-53 PAVE LOW helicopter during a night "soft duck casting" training evolution. Soft duck casting involves launching an inflatable boat from the back of a helicopter and jumping in the water after it. Special Operations soldiers are deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Spotlight on ...

Carrie Hinson

Rank/Duty Title: Staff sergeant/still photographer

Organization: 16th Communications Squadron

Hometown: Pilot Knob, Mo.

Hobbies: Spending time with family and friends

Contribution to the mission:

With nearly her entire shop deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Sergeant Hinson took over and acted as the base visual information manager for three months. Through grit, determination and an unwavering desire to correct management deficiencies, she taught herself in three months what it takes the average visual information specialist years to learn, and instituting sweeping changes that led to a more efficient visual information center.

Also, as the base visual information manager, she was directly responsible for the photographic and graphic arts displays that contributed significantly to winning the Installation Excellence Award.

Sergeant Hinson recently won the Hurlburt Field Chief's Group Sharp Award.

(Editor's Note: The COMMANDO highlights airmen, junior NCOs, company grade officers, Department of Defense civilians and volunteers in units who do a great job, and should receive day-to-day recognition.)

Supervisors can call the 16th Special Operations Wing Public Affairs Office at 884-7464 for more information on nominating an individual for the "Spotlight on..." column.)

CDC children check out with check up

By Tech. Sgt. Andre Nicholson
Public Affairs

The Hurlburt Field Child Development Center proved the concept of developing the whole child is more than just lip service when they provided 76 children with health screenings at the center June 5.

The CDC in conjunction with the 16th Medical Group gave the children general health screenings to include: hearing audiograms, vision screenings, height, weight, and blood pressure checks.

"Part of our job is to ensure our children are ready when they leave our program to go to kindergarten," said Lisa LaConte, child development center training and curriculum specialist. "We're supporting the whole child's development, which includes areas such as math skills, language, writing and reading as well as their physical, social and emotional development."

The health screenings were made possible by the combined efforts of the parents, the optometry clinic and the pediatric clinic.

Pediatric doctors conducted a general health screening based on each child's audiogram results, height, weight, blood pressure and the developmental skills they've mastered, Ms. LaConte explained.

"The children were very happy about the doctors visiting them at the CDC," Ms. LaConte said. "The friendliness and enthusiasm of those conducting the

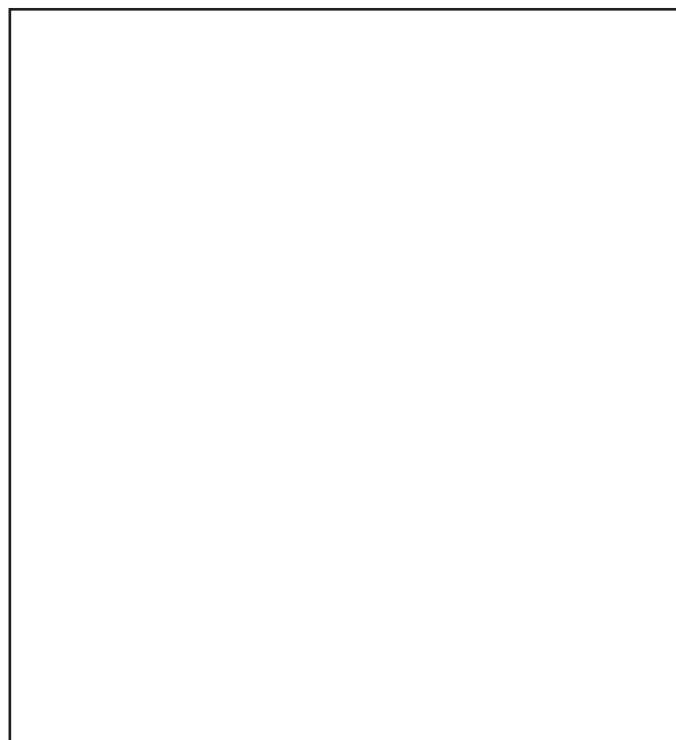


Photo by Senior Airman Sam Taylor

screenings made the children feel very comfortable."

Providing the health screenings at the CDC made it convenient for both parents and the medical staff. It kept the parents from having to take time away from work and it allowed the medical staff to conduct the exams all at one time.

Between both clinics, they were able to screen all 76 children from ages 3-5 years old in less than five and half hours, Ms. LaConte said.

"Of the 76 children who were

screened, 36 were identified as needing to visit the clinic for more comprehensive hearing or eye exams," Ms. LaConte said. "A big part of a child's ability to be successful in school is dependent on good visual and hearing abilities."

The CDC plans to continue with the health screenings on an annual basis as a service to their children and families.

"If we can catch children with possible vision or hearing problems now, we're helping them for future school readiness success," Ms. LaConte said.

AIR FORCE NEWS

Miniature decoy entices enemy

By Lois Walsh
Air Armament Center
Public Affairs

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — Experts are helping develop a miniature air-launched decoy that Air Force officials hope will entice enemy forces to prematurely disclose their air defense locations, keeping friendly pilots further out of harms way.

Precision strike system program office experts awarded an \$88 million, five-year systems development and demonstration contract to Raytheon Corporation to develop the decoy.

The decoy's intended to saturate enemy air-defense systems by appearing on radar screens as a full-size bomber or fighter, according to Anna Harbaugh, program manager.

She said the finished decoy will be a small, cruise missile-

like vehicle about 115 inches long, eight inches around, with a 60-inch wingspan. It will weigh only 200 pounds and will be launched from both fighters and bombers.

The decoy, powered by a turbojet engine, will reach speeds of Mach .93 - about 650 mph — and altitudes approaching 40,000 feet, Ms. Harbaugh said.

Air Combat Command officials, who requested the development, require it to fly for 45 minutes at 35,000 feet or for 20 minutes at 3,000 feet.

The decoys can be used in many ways, according to Mel Duval, chief engineer. He said one scenario calls for fighters to follow the decoys into enemy territory.

"When the enemy turns on their surface-to-air defense radars (in response to the decoys), the real fighters or bombers arrive and launch hom-



Courtesy computer illustration

The miniature air-launched decoy is designed to attract enemy radar systems, disclosing their location.

ing anti-radiation missiles that will follow the emissions to the source and obliterate them," he said.

In another scenario, Mr. Duval said the decoy could be fired in swarms, completely overwhelming an enemy's integrated air-defense system.

The decoy is scheduled to begin captive flight-testing in 2005 and free flight-testing in 2006. Initial production should begin in 2007. (AFPN)

Airmen reminded to update vRED

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — In the five months since the official launch of the virtual record of emergency data, more than 383,000 airmen have updated their contact information. While this number is impressive, there's more work to be done, according to Air Force Personnel Center officials.

"It's imperative we have every airman — active duty, Guard and Reserve — fill out their emergency contact information," said Maj. Jerry Couvillion, chief of the center's casualty services branch. "The information's essential for our casualty notification teams in case an airman becomes incapacitated or worse yet, killed."

Better known as vRED, this online form replaced the paper Department of Defense Form 93, Record of Emergency Data, as the only way

for airmen to provide personal emergency information.

By filling out the form from any Internet-connected computer, Air Force casualty officials have immediate access to critical information, Major Couvillion said.

"It avoids hours or even days of uncertainty during times when casualty teams are sometimes left to track down next of kin," Major Couvillion said.

New procedures require all airmen to update their information electronically every six months, before deployments and after permanent changes of station.

For more information about the vMPF or vRED, visit www.afpc.randolph.af.mil or call the Air Force Contact Center toll free at (866) 229-7074. (AFPN)

News Briefs

Coalition declares first phase of Iraq reconstitution complete

The coalition has completed the first phase in its efforts to reconstitute Iraq, in which the focus was on:

- Restoring basic services
- Turning on utilities
- Providing better law and order

In the second phase of reconstitution, the main focus is on restoring economic activity and creating jobs.

The Civil Administrator for Iraq has announced several initiatives toward this goal:

- A \$70 million community action program to help communities identify areas where they can quickly get initiatives going
 - A \$100 million emergency construction program to restart the construction industry
 - Encourage trade, with the sale of Iraqi oil directly into the world market as the first priority
- Work in Iraq continues in other areas including:
- Breaking up the Ba'ath party structure
 - Setting up an interim administration
 - Building a new Iraqi army (recruiting and training sites have been identified)
 - Developing a security force

Civil Service seeks to modify hiring practice, pay schedule

A bill before Congress seeks to bring the civil service system into the 21st Century and in line with modern business practices.

The proposed legislation is aimed at changing:

- Hiring practices: DoD feels the federal government places too many restrictions on hiring new workers; relaxing the restrictions will allow the department to compete with industry for new talent.
- Pay schedule: The current general pay schedule doesn't meet market place standards; with a system of pay bands, career fields would be assigned a salary range based on entry, journeyman and executive levels. Managers and supervisors would then determine what salaries to offer based on a budget. There would be two bases for changing people's pay: Change of job duties and performance.

Look who's talking: If you could make an addition to the base, what would it be?

"An olympic sized swimming pool (indoor) so you could swim/train all year round."

"Free cable or internet in the dorms, so you wouldn't have to wait in the dining facility or library to access the Internet."

"More money for TACP (Tactical Air Control Party) training."

Bridal Expo assists couples in wedding plans

By Airman 1st Class Heidi Davis
Public Affairs

The second annual Bridal Expo was held Sunday at the Soundside to offer assistance to brides and grooms in the wedding planning stages.

According to Cheryl Berry, 16th Services Squadron, approximately 130 weddings were held at the Soundside last year, and that was the primary reason for holding the event.

"It makes sense to host a bridal show," Ms. Berry said. "I think it's an excellent way to show our support to local residents and businesses."

Approximately 68 brides, 35 grooms and 55 spectators visited the show. Twenty of those visitors were couples with their "special event" scheduled at the Soundside.

"We had a great response from the community," Ms. Berry said. "Spectators continually flowed into the expo throughout the day."

With seventeen area vendors, including the Soundside, available for assistance at the show, couples were given more than enough information to start planning their weddings.

"We've attempted to gather a vendor for every wedding need in one location to save brides time from running all over

town searching for the right contact," Ms. Berry said.

The Soundside also contributed to the event by providing a display with samples from its menu. Other displays included: Mary Kay cosmetics; Creative Celebrations wedding cakes; and Adaptive Party Lines linen, china and candelabra rentals.

"Prospective brides and grooms were able to speak one-on-one with vendors about prices, availability and special packages," Ms. Berry said.

Couples were able to speak with: photographers, florists, entertainers, travel companies, limousine services and many other vendors from Panama City to Navarre.

To assist brides in finding the perfect gown, there was a bridal fashion show presented by several volunteers from the 16th Services Squadron, who wore gowns provided by Bridals by Yours Truly.

In addition to several sources of information, guests were also provided with opportunities to win one of several door prizes.

Throughout the expo, 20 door prizes were given to current brides and grooms.

Some of the prizes included: a two-night stay in Orlando with tickets for



Photo by Vanessa Reyes-Adame

A local vendor provided the Bridal Expo with a display of cakes available through their services.

two to Wet and Wild; or a dinner for two at the Sleuth Mystery Dinner Theater; and guests who had "bride doilies" beneath their seats were given

one of ten cake servers.

"We hope to continue bringing the expo to the local and military community for years to come," Ms. Berry said.

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OPSEC update

Combating social engineering

The only protection against social engineering attacks is to educate and train your employees.

Here are several important points to address or manage when assembling a barrier to social engineering attacks:

○If anything sounds out of place or strange, err to the side of caution and security.

○Always demand proof of identity over the phone and in person.

○Verify the ID by calling the proper authority or issuing company. In our case, the individuals unit and phone number. No matter the rank or arrogance of the caller, you're under no obligation to provide sensitive information over the phone to someone you don't know.

○Define values for types of information, such as deployment/exercise schedules, social security numbers, phone numbers, dial-in accounts, user names, passwords, network addresses, etc. The greater the value, the higher the security around those items should be maintained. Refer to your unit's critical information list.

○If someone requests privileged information, find out why they want it and whether they're authorized to obtain it.

○Dispose of sensitive documents securely, such as shredding or incinerating. Dumpster diving often provides social engineering attackers with the kernels of information they need to wedge their way in.

○Never give out or change passwords over the phone.

Disposal demo

During the Fort Walton Beach Kid's Day, June 12, at the Fort Walton Beach Landing, Tech. Sgt. James Shaw, 16th Civil Engineer Squadron, demonstrates how the MK VI Radio Controlled Transport is used to remotely handle and neutralize hazardous devices.

Photo by Master Sgt. Justin Henderson

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AWARDS, Continued from Page 1

Freedom in Afghanistan. "Comm Commandos" performed radio operations flight following for the largest daylight combat search and rescue in history, redeployed communications during the height of Operation Anaconda, established 30-kilowatt satellite communications power plant deemed essential to reconnaissance operations, and were key to providing targeting data for the destruction of Tora Bora Al Qaeda and Taliban strongholds.

In addition, the Air Force Communications Agency stated that Hurlburt Field's computer network is "one of the best, if not the best," networks it's ever seen. The squadron was also the first in history to fully employ "comm in a suitcase," by deploying communications capability small enough to leap forward to the barest of bases.

"The 16th CS is loaded with talent, and to win at the squadron level is in itself a great accomplishment," said Colonel Lynn. "However, I'm pleasantly surprised at sweeping the enlisted awards as well."

Six 16th CS airmen were also individually honored at the Air Force level:

Air Force Outstanding Communications – Computer Systems – These awards recognize individuals who've provided sustained superior performance in communications and information support to Air Force and Department of Defense missions and operations.

Senior NCO – Master Sgt. Brian Chisholm

Sergeant Chisholm's significant contributions and superior performance during the past year demonstrate why he's the best of the best, said Maj. Aaron Smith, 16th CS, Tactical Communications Flight commander.

He flawlessly led the Tactical Comm Plans Branch, and oversaw planning efforts to deploy 127 communicators to support 30 operations for 17,968 man-days in nine different countries, Major Smith said.

Sergeant Chisholm led an eight-person team in OEF, directed radio operations for the Joint Special Operations Air Component North, and maintained communications systems at an astounding 99-percent uptime rate. He worked 36 hours straight at the onset of Operation Anaconda, and orchestrated command

and control communications for 30 close-air support missions.

In addition, the **Air Force Association Gen. Billy Mitchell Award for Communications and Information Excellence** was awarded to Sergeant Chisholm as the individual whose Communications and Information contributions most enhanced the Air Force's war fighting capability.

NCO – Tech. Sgt. Otis Fowler III

Sergeant Fowler's first day assigned to the theater deployable communications branch was the day the squadron deployed for OEF as part of initial mobilization. Sergeant Fowler sustained a blistering ops tempo, deploying for over 230 days on back-to-back OEF tours last year, said the major. He delivered time-critical communications to the JSOAC South for five months, and achieved a 99.82-percent uptime rate on all critical comm circuits to provide air tasking order, intelligence, network and secure voice services to support seven Special Operations aircraft and 230 personnel.

Sergeant Fowler deployed to Africa on his second OEF tour in support of U.S. Central Command's Crisis Response Element as lead network technician and helped install over 21,000 feet of communications cable to provide secure network and voice services to execute combat operations, said Major Smith.

Airman – Senior Airman Tavaron Marshall

Airman Marshall established radio communications at two forward operating bases in support of OEF. He expertly managed 14 separate radio systems and completed 3,100 radio calls, providing leadership with real-time information during mission execution, said Major Smith. He flawlessly performed radio operations when a Special Operations aircraft went down in enemy territory, providing information and situational awareness during the entire rescue mission, he said.

As an Airman, he deployed on a Foreign Internal Defense mission to Central America, and single-handedly provided, maintained and operated 20 different communications systems for



Courtesy Photo

The 16th Communications Squadron (above), was named the best small communications unit in the Air Force.

airfield operations. While deployed in support of CENTCOM's Crisis Response Element, Airman Marshall performed duties outside his regular job, and managed updates to the web information center to ensure time-sensitive information was provided to Joint Forces Special Operations Component Command in a timely manner.

Lt. Gen. Leo Marquez awards – These awards recognize people who've provided sustained superior performance in communications systems maintenance support to Air Force and DOD missions and operations. The award is named in honor of a maintenance pioneer, Lt. Gen. Leo Marquez, who still attends the banquets.

Maj. Aaron Smith

Major Smith led his squadron into OEF, providing rock solid comm support and feedback that led to the first OEF Combat Mission Needs Statement and \$8 million for AFSOC to purchase a small, lightweight communications package, called the Initial Communications Element, which affected communications across the entire Air Force, said Colonel Lynn. His innovative ideas implementation of new communications tactics, techniques and procedures allowed the 16th CS to be first into Afghanistan, said the colonel. Major Smith was also the 16th SOW's lead communications planner for OIF.

Senior Airman Angel Ramos

Airman Ramos deployed for 200 days on consecutive OEF tours, and established first-in tactical communications at three forward-operating bases.

He was a member of a forward-deployed team that was critical in

achieving the fastest OEF communications activation time of seven sites in five different countries. He was also hand picked to deploy on a fast-reaction team to Africa in support of U.S. Central Command's Crisis Response Element. This mission to Africa was unique because it was the debut deployment of the ICE – AFSOC's newest tactical communications system.

Herb Reid

Mr. Reid got his nickname, "McGyver," because he can fix anything, said Major Smith. He deployed on the first team out the door during OEF to a forward operating base, helping to establish ground-to-air radio communications to help bed down 19 Special Ops aircraft and 4,500 people.

Mr. Reid led the operational testing of AFSOC's \$2.7 million Small Network Access Package, which provides initial secure voice and data for deployed forces to receive intelligence, imagery and mission planning data.

"He's a superb instructor and provided training on Special Operations communications systems to more than 230 personnel from AFSOC units last year," Major Smith said.

Colonel Lynn said he's proud of the 16th CS's accomplishments.

"I'm absolutely thrilled the Air Force realized what I've known all along," he said. "The 16th CS 'comm commandos' are the best in the Air Force. I've always felt that winning an award at the squadron level should be the most rewarding to our folks. Our squadron is loaded with talent, and to win at this level is an accomplishment to be proud of."

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take longer than others and several factors come into play once the project starts, such as the weather, which may cause completion dates to be delayed, Lieutenant Lord explained.

One of the largest multi-million dollar projects being constructed is the \$6 million combined dining/fitness

center located on the east side of the base near the commissary and medical clinic. The project, which started in August 2002, is scheduled to be complete by June 2004 and will provide a 28,000 square-meter, two-story dining facility/fitness center.

The commissary is being renovated to expand the sales area and replace the roof. The cost of this project is more than \$6 million and is scheduled to be complete by March 2004.

Another project includes force protection upgrades

to the AFSOC and 16th SOW headquarters, by relocating parking areas, providing controlled parking, and necessary stand off distances.

These are just a few of the many projects underway, with several more to come in the near future.

"The construction might seem a little inconvenient for now," Colonel Pitchford said, "but the end product will definitely benefit the people who live and work here and greatly enhance the AFSOC and 16th SOW missions."

Hurlburt Field takes on several projects at once

The following are some of the projects being constructed around the base:

Military construction (MILCON) projects

○ Upgrade Road Access, which costs \$6 million, is scheduled to be complete by September. This project will realign and widen two primary access roads into Hurlburt Field. Extensive phasing and utility relocation is required. It will create four lanes on Cody Avenue and Independence Road, and it provided the new east gatehouse and access road to Martin Luther King Boulevard.

○ Consolidate Communications Facility, which costs \$3.9 million, is scheduled to be complete by February 2004. This project provides a 2,200 square-meter two-story facility that will consolidate the majority of the 16th Communications Squadron. It also includes alteration of 320 square-meters of existing facilities and the demolition of four buildings.

MILCON projects construct new facilities or additions to existing facilities and cost \$750,000 or more. These projects are coordinated through CE and submitted through Air Force Special Operations Command to the Air Staff for congressional approval five years in advance of the actual need.

Operation and maintenance (O and M) project:

○ Addition to 39th Information Operations Squadron Training Center, which costs \$543,000, is scheduled to be complete by December. The project will expand the 39th IOS training area.

Minor construction projects to construct new facilities or additions to existing facilities can cost \$15,000 to \$750,000. These projects are funded with O and M funds.

Simplified acquisition of base engineering requirements (SABER) projects:

○ Repair jogging path in Commando Village, which will cost \$151,167, is scheduled to be complete in October. The project provides a nature trail through Commando Village.

○ Live fire rescue training facility, which will cost \$242,502, is scheduled to be complete by the end of June. It will provide an apparatus for live structural fire rescue training.

○ Special Tactics Squadron Training Tower, which costs \$45,178, is scheduled to be complete by July. The tower will have the capability to mount a helicopter on it for fast-rope training.

SABER is utilized to speed up project acquisition and can be utilized for minor construction and repair projects that cost \$15,000 to \$750,000. These projects are fairly straight forward and don't require complicated design.

In-house project:

○ Installation of three pavilions and gas barbecue pits near the dormitories, which will cost \$54,000, is scheduled to be complete by the end of June.

Minor construction and repair projects can be designed in-house (or by outside architectural/engineering firms). They're put out for bids to local/regional construction contractors. The projects accomplished by the in-house 16th CES work force are usually less than \$15,000 and needed immediately.



Photo by Senior Airman Sam Taylor



Photo by Staff Sgt. Carlotta Holley



Photo by Senior Airman Sam Taylor

The new CV-22 Training Device Support Facility (top), which is a military construction project (MILCON), will provide classrooms and simulator support space. (Above) The new Consolidated Communications Facility is a two-story facility that will consolidate the majority of the 16th Communications Squadron personnel into one location. (Left) Construction workers repair the failing seawall behind Hume Drive housing.

LIFESTYLE

Military

Hurlburt Top 3

All senior NCOs and master sergeant selects assigned to Hurlburt Field are invited to attend the next Hurlburt Top 3 meeting held July 10 at 3 p.m. at the Enlisted Hooch. For more information, call Master Sgt. John Brinkley at 884-8422, or Master Sgt. David Ceurvels at 884-8443.

Aircraft parts services

The 16th Logistics Readiness Squadron customer service office, which is located in building 90710, is the primary point of contact for supply-related problems or complaints. Customer service doesn't order any aircraft parts. If the end item is part of a C-130 aircraft, the order can be submitted to the flight line support section at 884-1906; helicopter parts can be ordered through the Helicopter Parts Store at 881-4101.

New fueling schedule

The Fuels Management Flight is experiencing problems with the Hurlburt Field government fuel pumps. Therefore, effective immediately, fuel disbursements will be tracked manually on the following fueling schedule until further notice:

Five to 6 a.m.; 8 to 10 a.m.; 1 to 3 p.m.; and 7 to 10 p.m. For more information, call the fuels resource control center at 884-7374.

NY Air National Guard

The 109th Airlift Wing, in Scotia, NY, is home of the C-130 Skybirds and has traditional Guard vacancies in the following career fields: 1A2X1, 1C0X2, 1C3X1, 1N0X1, 2A5X1, 2A5X3, 2A6X1, 2A6X2, 2A6X4, 2A6X5, 2A6X6, 2A7X1, 2A7X3, 2E1X3, 2E6X3, 2F0X1, 2S0X1, 2T0X1, 2T251, 3E0X1, 3E3X1, 3E4X1, 3E7X1, 3E9X1, 3M0X1, 3P0X1, 4A0X1, 4A1X1, 4A2X1, 4E0X1, 4N0X1, 4T0X1 and 4Y0X1, as well as, full-time active-duty opportunities for 2A5X3 and 8R000. The National Guard also has an ongoing need for full-time aerospace maintenance specialists in support of its U.S. Antarctic mission. For more information, call 344-2456, 1-800-524-5070, or e-mail Master Sgt. Wesley Ryerson at wesley.ryerson@nyscot.ang.af.mil.

MA Air National Guard

The Massachusetts Air National Guard, Westfield, Mass., allows service members leaving the Air Force to serve the country part-time, while pursuing a college degree full-time. MA ANG college benefits can be found at www.maainguard.org. Currently, the MAANG has vacancies in the following careers: 2A1X1, 2A1X2, 2A6X2, 2A6X3, 2A6X4, 2A6X5, 2A7X1, 2A7X3, 2W1X1, 3E0X2, 3E4X1 and 3P0X1. Cross training may also be available. For more information, call (800) 247-9151, or e-mail recruiting@mabarn.ang.af.mil.

Community

AFMC/AFGE briefings

All Hurlburt Field military members and civilian employees are invited to attend informational briefings on

Air Force Materiel Command and the American Federation of Government Employees Partnership Principles Friday at 7 and 8:30 a.m., and June 30 at 2 and 4 p.m. at the base theater. The purpose of the briefings is to inform all personnel of the partnership between AFMC and AFGE, and the potential for this partnership to enhance mission accomplishment. The following partnership principles will be covered:

- We value and respect all workers
- We focus on our common interests and shared problems
- We share information freely
- We treat each other as equals

For more information, call your servicing employee relations specialist at 884-5212/5215; Dan Landrum, president, AFGE Local 1897 at 882-5714; or Rocky Tasse, president, AFGE Local 1942 at 882-5270.

Gulf Coast Rally 2003

The American Red Cross of Northwest Florida hosts the Gulf Coast Rally 2003 Motorcycle Scavenger Hunt Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Town and Country Shopping Center, located at the corner of Pace Boulevard and Fairfield Drive in Pensacola.

Registration is at 9 a.m., and the cost is \$15 per motorcycle. There will also be grab bags, door prizes, t-shirts and lunch, as well as, an opportunity to sign a welcome home banner for the local troops. The rain date is June 29. For more information, call the American Red Cross at (850) 432-7601.

Vacation Bible School

The Hurlburt Chapel hosts its Protestant Vacation Bible School Monday through Friday for children age five through sixth grade. The theme for the week is "Growing the Fruit of the Spirit." Children can be registered at the chapel, or by e-mailing daniel.sullivan@hurlburt.af.mil for the form and instructions. For more information, call Danny Sullivan at 884-7795.

Environmental assessment

The 16th Special Operations Wing has completed an environmental assessment for the construction and operation of a wastewater re-use line on Hurlburt Field. The proposed project would replace potable water use with treated wastewater at several facilities on the base.

There will be a 30-day public review period before any further action is implemented. A copy of the assessment is available at the Mary Esther Public Library, located at 100 West Hollywood Boulevard.

Anyone interested in making comments on the proposed project, can mail them to:

16th Civil Engineer Squadron/Environmental Management

415 Independence Road
Hurlburt Field, Fla. 32544-5244

For more information, call the 16th CES at 884-4652.

Legal closing

The 16th Special Operations Wing Legal Office closes Monday from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for an official function. Also, there won't be any legal assistance July 2. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Susan Ablett at 884-4352.

Commissary closing

The Hurlburt Field Commissary closes July 4 in observance of Independence Day. It will re-open July 5.

Hurlburt Field Chapel 884-7795



Catholic Mass

Saturday, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, 7:15 and 10 a.m.

Confessions: Saturday, 4:30 to 5 p.m., or by request.

Youth: 5 p.m. Sunday

Religious Education:

September–May

Protestant Services

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. (praise & worship),

11:30 a.m. (traditional),

12:45 p.m. (Gospel)

Religious Education: August–May

Youth and Singles groups available

Jewish Services (882-2111)

Sabbath services: Friday, 7:30 p.m., Eglin Chapel Center

Havdallah services: next-to-the-last Saturday of each month, 7 p.m., Chapel annex

Muslim Services (882-2111), Eglin Chapel Center

Jumuah: Friday, 12:45 p.m.

Qur'an: Saturday, 6 p.m.

At the movies

Prices are \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children. Movies start at 7 p.m. unless otherwise indicated.

Hurlburt Field 884-7648

Friday and Sunday (PG-13) *It Runs in the Family*, starring Kirk Douglas and Michael Douglas. From Mitchell Gromberg to his son Alex and grandson Asher, everyone is trying to cope with life and a distinctly different set of problems. Mitchell grapples with his morality, while Alex tries to avoid becoming his father. Meanwhile, Asher just tries to stay relatively straight, as he goes through college.

Saturday (PG-13) *The Lizzie McGuire Movie*, starring Hilary Duff and Adam Lamberg. Lizzie and her pals plan to live *la dolce vita* while on a class trip to Italy. Mistaken for an Italian pop star, she is transformed from a gawky teenager to a beautiful pop star. A whirlwind of surprising events force Lizzie to find the true meaning of friendship.

Eglin 882-1066

Friday and Sunday (PG-13) *X-Men United*, starring Patrick Stewart and Hugh Jackson. The X-Men have opponents new and old to face this time around. Magneto is back, but there is also a threat to Professor Xavier's school for mutants led by a human named Stryker, not to mention a vicious woman named Yuriko, who has it in for Wolverine.

Saturday (R) *Identity*, starring John Cusack and Amanda Peet. During an unrelenting rainstorm, with all roads washed out and all forms of communication dead at an isolated motel in rural Nevada, a group of people become stranded. Soon the waterlogged lodgers start dying in mysterious and brutal ways. The increasingly dwindling number of survivors must then discover the killer to prevent their own demises.

(Editor's note: Movies are subject to change. Telephone numbers are provided for patrons to confirm scheduled playdates.)

ROTC cadet program

This summer Hurlburt Field hosts the new secretary of the Air Force's directed Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps Rising Sophomore Summer program. Forty sophomore cadets from various colleges and universities will be here from Monday to Aug. 1.

During their six-week stay, the cadets will get a first-hand look at how the Air Force operates. They'll live and dine on base, and are authorized to use all recreational facilities. The cadets will also visit different squadrons to get some hands-on experience in various career fields and will have the opportunity to perform enlisted and junior officer duties. To supplement the work experience, they'll also get to fire weapons, attend the Commando Pride Airman Center, attend courses at the Joint Special Operations University and receive various types of training.

The program is designed to show the cadets Air Force life early on, and will serve as a great recruiting tool. This summer is the test phase of the program, with only five Air Force bases and 200 cadets selected to participate. Next year the program is expected to expand to 1,400 cadets and 35 bases. For more information or to assist with the program, call 1st Lt. Tara Opielowski at 884-4447.

CCAF transcript policy change

As of July 1, the Community College of the Air Force will no longer accept AF Forms 2099 from active-duty, Guard or Reserve service members. Instead, students can order transcripts at the Air Force Virtual Education Center at www.afvec.langley.af.mil/afvec. However, separated or retired individuals using Veteran's Association education offices may continue to submit the forms, but it needs to be accompanied by a written request.

Also, civilian transcripts will only be accepted directly from civilian institutions. This will help eliminate lost transcripts and allow students more control over the process by checking the AFVEC Web site to confirm their transcripts were received and follow up with their

education counselor if necessary. For more information, call the education office at 884-6724.

Classes

Sponsorship training

Anyone assigned as a sponsor for incoming personnel should attend this class. The class covers many sponsor duties unique to Hurlburt Field.

Single Parents luncheon

The Single Parents luncheon is an informal meeting to share with others the joys and challenges of being a single parent. Call 884-5441 to make reservations.

Employment Orientation

This class offers information about finding the job/career people are looking for. Information is provided about the job market and how to utilize job sources.

FSC classes:

Employment Orientation – Monday, 9 a.m.; Wednesday, 1 p.m.

Sponsorship Training – Monday, 1 p.m.

Mapping Your Career – Monday, 1 p.m.

Moms, Pops and Tots – Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m.

Single Parents luncheon – Tuesday, noon

Résumé Workshop – Tuesday, 5 p.m.

Veteran's Affairs Social Security briefing – Wednesday, 7:30 a.m. at the base theater

Readiness – Thursday, 9 a.m.

Deployment and Families – Thursday, 5 p.m.

HAWC classes:

Prenatal Nutrition – Wednesday, 4 p.m.

Diabetic Nut Follow Up – Thursday, 9 a.m.

Lean On Me – Thursday, 11:30 a.m.

BEACH FLAG SYSTEM

This system is in place for your safety. Please observe and obey this Flag System.



BLUE:
Conditions are favorable for swimming. Exercise caution.



YELLOW:
Exercise **EXTREME CAUTION** while swimming or wading.



RED:
DANGER
No Swimming or Wading.



Rip currents can be unpredictable, dangerous and deadly. Please use good judgement and obey the lifeguards and flag warning system while swimming in the Gulf of Mexico.

Help keep our beaches clean!

NO

LITTERING
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OR ANIMALS
ON THE BEACH

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SPORTS

Renewed strength

Emily Goodwin (right), 16th Component Maintenance Squadron, passes a baton to Rod Zietlow, 16th CMS, during Hurlburt Field's first 13K, four-person relay June 13. During the race, each person per team carried the baton 3.25K, to complete the course. Although the relay was called off before it was finished due to lightning, it will be re-run July 18. Teams must sign-in by 8 a.m., that morning, with the race starting at 8:30 a.m. The fitness center plans on holding a 13K relay each Friday the 13th. For more information, call the main fitness center at 884-6884.



Photo by Senior Airman Sam Taylor

Dive club offers unique experience

By Senior Airman Sam Taylor
Public Affairs

People who want an out-of-this-world experience need look no further than the Hurlburt Field Dive Club.

The dive club here provides people an opportunity to not only get their basic scuba certification but also as an outlet for very advanced divers who've made diving a huge part of their lives, said Jack Penland, one of two scuba instructors here, who dives with the boat "The New Dawn" while scuba diving with the club.

Mr. Penland said he and Terry Hartley, the dive club's other scuba instructor, are top of the line and as good as they come in the scuba industry.

"There are no second best or

"B" rated instructors here," said Mr. Penland.

The dive club here is a one-stop shop for both novice and experienced divers, offering a complete dive shop to rent or buy dive gear, and get complete scuba lessons.

"The Hurlburt Field Dive Club is a great place to get started scuba diving, or just to hang out and listen and learn from the veteran divers," said Chad Anderson, who dives with the club. "I also believe the club is being overlooked by many people here on base. They're missing out on a great opportunity to see the world from another point of view."

Dive club hours are Monday and Friday, from 5 to 7 p.m. For more information, call the club at 884-7930.



Chad Anderson rolls off the boat "The New Dawn" while scuba diving with the Hurlburt Field Dive Club.

Photo by Charmaine Carpenter

Sports shorts

Football officials wanted

Officials are needed to officiate high school and middle school football. Training meetings are scheduled to begin July 28. For information on registering with the Florida High School Athletic Association, call Don Dineen, Miracle Strip Officials Association Football Commissioner, at 803-7536, or e-mail dcdineen@cox.net

Cardboard Boat Regatta

Teams that wish to participate in this year's Cardboard Boat Regatta must register by June 30. The competition is open to Hurlburt Field military identification card holders. Trophies will be awarded for the most unique boat, ugliest boat, best-dressed crew and first to sink. For more information, call outdoor recreation at 884-6939.